

BIG

- small, its precise bulk becomes very obscure and confused.
Locke.
 A troubled ocean, to a man who fails in it, is, I think, the
biggest object that he can see in motion. *Spectator*, N° 489.
 Then commerce brought into the publick walk
 The busy merchant, the *big* warehouse built. *Thomson.*
 Teeming; pregnant; great with young; with the particle
with.
 A bear *big* with young hath seldom been seen. *Bacon.*
 Lately on yonder swelling bull,
Big with many a common rose,
 This early bud began to blush. *Waller.*
 Sometimes *with of*; but rarely.
 His gentle lady,
Big of this gentleman, our theme, deceas'd
 As he was born. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
 Full of something; and desirous, or about, to give it vent.
 The great, th' important day,
Big with the fate of Cato and of Rome. *Addison's Cato.*
 Now *big* with knowledge of approaching woes,
 The prince of augurs, Halitherses, rose. *Pope's Odyssey.*
 Distended; swollen; ready to burst; used often of the effects of
 passion, as grief, rage.
 Thy heart is *big*; get thee apart, and weep.
Shakefp. Julius Caesar.
 Great in air and mien; proud; swelling; tumid; haughty;
 furly.
 How else, said he, but with a good bold face,
 And with *big* words, and with a stately pace. *Hub. Tale.*
 To the meaner man, or unknown in the court, seem some-
 what solemn, coy, *big*, and dangerous of look, talk, and an-
 swer. *Ascham's Schoolmaster.*
 If you had but looked *big*, and spit at him, he'd have run.
Shakefp. Winter's Tale.
 Or does the man i' th' moon look *big*,
 Or wear a huger perriwig,
 Than our own native lunatics. *Hudibras*, p. ii. cant. iii.
 Of governments that once made such a noise, and looked so
big in the eyes of mankind, as being founded upon the deepest
 counsels, and the strongest force; nothing remains of them but
 a name. *South.*
 In his most prosperous season, he fell under the reproach of
 being a man of *big* looks, and of a mean and abject spirit.
Clarendon.
 Thou thyself, thus insolent in state,
 Art but perhaps some country magistrate,
 Whose power extends no farther than to speak
Big on the bench, and scanty weights to break.
 To grant *big* Thrafo valour, Phormio sense,
 Should indignation give, at least offence. *Garth.*
 Great in spirit; lofty; brave.
 What art thou? have not I
 An arm as big as thine? a heart as *big*?
 Thy words, I grant, are bigger: for I wear not
 My dagger in my mouth. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
 BIGAMIST. *n. f.* [bigamus, low Lat.] One that has committed
 bigamy. See BIGAMY.
 By the papal canon, a clergyman, that has a wife, cannot
 have an ecclesiastical benefice; much less can a bigamist have
 such a benefice, according to that law. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
 BIGAMY. *n. f.* [bigamus, low Latin.]
 1. The crime of having two wives at once.
 A beauty-wining and distressed widow
 Seduced the pitch and height of all his thoughts,
 To base declension, and loath'd bigamy. *Shakefp. Richard III.*
 Randal determined to commence a suit against Martin, for
bigamy and incest. *Arbutnot and Pope's Martinus Scriblerus.*
 2. In the canon law. The marriage of a second wife, or of a
 widow, or a woman already debauched; which, in the church
 of Rome, were considered as bringing a man under some in-
 capacities for ecclesiastical offices.
 BIGBELLIED. *adj.* [from *big* and *belly*.] Pregnant; with child;
 great with young.
 When we have laught to see the sails conceive,
 And grow *bigbellied* with the wanton wind.
Shakefp. Midsummer Night's Dream.
 Children, and *bigbellied* women require antidotes somewhat
 more grateful to the palate. *Harvey on the Plague.*
 So many well shaped innocent virgins are blocked up, and
 waddling up and down like *bigbellied* women. *Addison's Spect.*
 We pursued our march, to the terror of the market peo-
 ple, and the miscarriage of half a dozen *bigbellied* women.
Addison's Freeholder.
 BIGGIN. *n. f.* [begin, Fr.] A child's cap.
 Sleep now!
 Yet not so found, and half so deeply sweet,
 As he, whose brow with homely *biggin* bound,
 Snored out the watch of night. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. ii.*
 BIGHT. *n. f.* It is explained by *Skinner*, the circumference of a
 coil of rope.
 BIGLY. *adv.* [from *big*.] Tumidly; haughtily; with a bluf-
 tering manner.

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- Wouldst thou not rather choose a small renown,
 To be the may'r of some poor paltry town;
 Bigly to look, and barb'rously to speak;
 To pound false weights, and scanty measures break?
Dryden's Juvenal, sat. x.
- BIGNESS. *n. f.* [from *big*.]
 1. Bulk; greatness of quantity.
 If panicum be laid below, and about the bottom of a root,
 it will cause the root to grow to an excessive bigness. *Bacon.*
 People were surpris'd at the bigness, and uncouth deformity
 of the camel. *L'Estrange's Fables.*
 The brain of man, in respect of his body, is much larger
 than in any other animal's; exceeding in bigness three oxen
 brains. *Ray on the Creation.*
 2. Size; whether greater or smaller.
 Several sorts of rays make vibrations of several bignesses,
 which, according to their bignesses, excite sensations of several
 colours; and the air, according to their bignesses, excites sen-
 sations of several sounds. *Newton's Opticks.*
 BIGOT. *n. f.* [The etymology of this word is unknown; but
 it is supposed, by Camden and others, to take its rise from some
 occasional phrase.] A man devoted to a certain party; pre-
 judiced in favour of certain opinions; a blind zealot. It is
 used often with to before the object of zeal; as, a bigot to the
 Cartesian tenets.
 Religious spite, and pious spleen bred first
 This quarrel, which so long the bigots nurs'd. *Tate's Juvenal.*
 In philosophy and religion, the bigots of all parties are ge-
 nerally the most positive. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*
 BIGOTTED. *adj.* [from *bigot*.] Blindly prepossessed in favour
 of something; irrationally zealous; with to.
 Bigotted to this idol, we disclaim
 Rest, health, and ease, for nothing but a name. *Garth.*
 Presbyterian merit, during the reign of that weak, bigotted,
 and ill advised prince, will easily be computed. *Swift.*
 BIGOTRY. *n. f.* [from *bigot*.]
 1. Blind zeal; prejudice; unreasonable warmth in favour
 of party or opinions; with the particle to.
 Were it not for a bigotry to our own tenets, we could hardly
 imagine, that so many absurd, wicked, and bloody principles,
 should pretend to support themselves by the gospel. *Watts.*
 2. The practice or tenet of a bigot.
 Our silence makes our adversaries think we persist in those
 bigotries, which all good and sensible men despise. *Pope.*
 BIGSWOLN. *adj.* [from *big* and *swollen*.] Turgid; ready to burst.
 Might my *bigswoln* heart
 Vent all its griefs, and give a loose to sorrow. *Addison's Cato.*
 BIG-UDDERED. *adj.* [from *big* and *udder*.] Having large ud-
 ders; having dug's swelled with milk.
 Now driv'n before him, through the arching rock,
 Came, tumbling heaps on heaps, th' unnumber'd flock,
 Big-udder'd cows, and goats of female kind. *Pope's Odyssey.*
 BILANDER. *n. f.* [bilandre, Fr.] A small vessel of about eighty
 tons burden, used for the carriage of goods. It is a kind of
 hoy, manageable by four or five men, and has masts and sails
 after the manner of a hoy. They are used chiefly in Holland,
 as being particularly fit for the canals. *Savary's Travels.*
 Like bilanders to creep
 Along the coast, and land in view to keep. *Dryden.*
 BILBERRY. *n. f.* [from *bil*, Sax. a bladder, and *berry*; accord-
 ing to *Skinner*.] The same with *whortleberry*; which see.
 Cricket, to Windsor chimneys shalt thou leap;
 There pinch the maids as blue as bilberries. *Shakefp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*
 BILBO. *n. f.* [corrupted from *Billow*, where the best weapons are
 made.] A rapier; a sword.
 To be compassed like a good *bilbo*, in the circumference of a
 peck, hilt to point, heel to head. *Shakefp. M. W. of Windsor.*
 BILBOES. *n. f.* A sort of stocks, or wooden theekles for the
 feet, used for punishing offenders at sea.
 Methought I lay,
 Worse than the mutines, in the bilboes. *Shakefp. Hamlet.*
 BILE. *n. f.* [bilis, Lat.] A thick, yellow, bitter liquor, sepa-
 rated in the liver, collected in the gall-bladder, and discharged
 into the lower end of the duodenum, or beginning of the jeju-
 num, by the common duct. Its use is to theate or blunt the
 acids of the chyle; because they, being entangled with its sul-
 phurs, thicken it so, that it cannot be sufficiently diluted by
 the succus pancreaticus, to enter the lacteal vessels. *Quincy.*
 In its progression, soon the labour'd chyle
 Receives the confluent rills of bitter bile;
 Which, by the liver fever'd from the blood,
 And striving through the gall-pipe, here unload
 Their yellow streams. *Blackmore.*
 BILE. *n. f.* [bile, Sax. perhaps from *bilis*, Lat. This is generally
 spelt *bil*; but, I think, less properly.] A fore angry swelling.
 But yet thou art my beth, my blood, my daughter;
 Or, rather, a disease that's in my flesh;
 Thou art a bile in my corrupted blood. *Shakefp. King Lear.*
 Those biles did run—say so—did not the general run? were
 not that a botchy fore? *Shakefp. Troilus and Cressida.*

A furcu-

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- A furunculus is a painful tubercle, with a broad basis, arif-
 ing in a cone. It is generally called a *bile*, and, in it its slate,
 is accompanied with inflammation, pullation, and tension.
Wifeman's Surgery.
- BILGE in a ship. The compass or breadth of the ship's bottom.
Skinner.
 To BILGE. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To spring a leak; to let in
 water, by striking upon a rock: a sea term. *Skinner.*
 BILINARY. *adj.* [from *bilis*, Lat.] Belonging to the bile.
 Voracious animals, and such as do not chew, have a great
 quantity of gall; and some of them have the bilinary duct in-
 serted into the pylorus. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
 BILINGSATE. *n. f.* [A cant word, borrowed from *Bilingsgate*
 in London, a place where there is always a crowd of low peo-
 ple, and frequent brawls and foul language.] Ribaldry; foul
 language.
 There stript, fair rick't languish'd on the ground,
 And shameful *bilingsate* her robes adorn. *Dunciad*, b. iv.
 BILINGUOUS. *adj.* [bilinguis, Lat.] Having, or speaking two
 tongues.
 BILIOUS. *adj.* [from *bilis*, Lat.] Consisting of bile; partaking
 of bile.
 Why *bilious* juice a golden light puts on,
 And floods of chyle in silver currents run. *Garth.*
 When the taste of the mouth is bitter, it is a sign of redun-
 dance of a *bilious* alkali. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
 To BILK. *v. a.* [derived by Mr. Lye from the Gothic, *bilai-*
can.] To cheat; to defraud, by running in debt, and avoid-
 ing payment.
 Bilk'd stationers for yeomen stood prepar'd. *Dryden.*
 What comedy, what farce can more delight,
 Than grinning hunger, and the pleasing fight
 Of your *bilk'd* hopes? *Dryden's Juvenal*, sat. v.
 BILL. *n. f.* [bile, Sax. See BALL.] The beak of a fowl.
 Their bills were thwarted crossways at the end, and with
 these, they would cut an apple in two at one snap.
Carew's Survey of Cornwall.
 It may be tried, whether birds may not be made to have
 greater or longer bills, or greater and longer talons.
Bacon's Natural History, N° 757.
 In his bill
 An olive leaf he brings, pacifick sign! *Paradise Lost*, b. xi.
 No crowing cock does there his wings display,
 Nor with his horny bill provoke the day. *Dryden's Fables.*
 BILL. *n. f.* [bile, Sax. *cybile*, a two edged axe.]
 1. A kind of hatchet with a hooked point, used in country work,
 as a *bedging* bill; so called from its resemblance in form to the
 beak of a bird of prey.
 Standing troops are servants armed, who use the lance and
 sword, as other servants do the fickle, or the bill, at the com-
 mand of those who entertain them. *Temple.*
 2. A kind of weapon anciently carried by the foot; a battle axe.
 Yea distaff women manage rusty bills;
 Against thy feat both young and old rebel. *Shakefp. R. II.*
 BILL. *n. f.* [billet, French.]
 1. A written paper of any kind.
 He does receive
 Particular addition from the bill
 That writes them all alike. *Shakefp. Macbeth.*
 2. An account of money.
 Ordinary expence ought to be limited by a man's estate, and
 ordered to the best, that the bills may be less than the estima-
 tion abroad. *Bacon's Essays.*
 3. A law presented to the parliament, not yet made an act.
 No new laws can be made, nor old laws abrogated or alter-
 ed, but by parliament; where bills are prepared, and presented
 to the two houses. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*
 How now, for mitigation of this bill,
 Urg'd by the commons? Doth his majesty
 Incline to it, or no? *Shakefp. Henry V.*
 4. An act of parliament.
 There will be no way left for me to tell you, that I remem-
 ber you, and that I love you; but that one, which needs no
 open warrant, or secret conveyance; which no bills can pre-
 clude, or no kings prevent. *Atterbury to Pope.*
 5. A physician's prescription.
 Like him that took the doctor's bill,
 And swallow'd it instead o' th' pill. *Hudibras*, p. i. cant. ii.
 The medicine was prepar'd according to the bill.
L'Estrange, fab. 183.
 Let them, but under your superiours, kill,
 When doctors first have sign'd the bloody bill. *Dryden.*
 6. An advertisement.
 And in despair, their empty pit to fill,
 Set up some foreign monster in a bill. *Dryden.*
 7. In law.
 1. An obligation, but without condition or forfeiture for
 nonpayment. 2. A declaration in writing, that expresseth ei-
 ther the grief and the wrong, that the complainant hath suffer-
 ed by the party complained of; or else some fault, that the
 party complained of, hath committed against some law. This
 bill is sometimes offered to justices errants in the general af-

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- sizes; but most to the lord chancellor. It containeth the fact
 complained of, the damages thereby suffered, and petition of
 process against the defendant for redress. *Crowl.*
 The fourth thing very maturely to be consulted by the jury,
 is, what influence their finding the bill may have upon the
 kingdom. *Swift.*
 8. A bill of mortality. An account of the numbers that have died
 in any district.
 Most who took in the weekly bills of mortality, made little
 other use of them, than to look at the foot, how the burials en-
 creased or decreas'd. *Gravins's Bills of Mortality.*
 So liv'd our fires, ere doctors learn'd to kill, *Dryden.*
 And multiply'd with theirs the weekly bill.
 9. A bill of fare. An account of the season of provisions, or of
 the dishes at a feast.
 It may seem somewhat difficult to make out the bills of fare
 for some of the forementioned suppers. *Arbutnot on Coins.*
 10. A bill of exchange. A note ordering the payment of a sum of
 money in one place, to some person assigned by the drawer or
 remitter, in consideration of the value paid to him in another
 place.
 The comfortable sentences are our bills of exchange, upon the
 credit of which we lay our cares down, and receive provisions.
Taylor's Rule of living holy.
 All that a bill of exchange can do, is to direct to whom mo-
 ney is due, or taken up upon credit, in a foreign country, shall
 be paid. *Locke.*
 To BILL. *v. n.* [from *bill*, a beak.] To caw, as doves by
 joining bills; to be fond.
 Doves, they say, will bill, after their pecking, and their mur-
 muring. *Ben Jonson's Catiline.*
 Still amorous, and fond, and billing,
 Like Philip and Mary on a shilling. *Hudibras*, p. iii. c. i.
 They bill, they tread; Alcyon compress'd,
 Seven days sits brooding on her floating nest. *Dryden.*
 He that bears th' artillery of Jove,
 The strong pounc'd eagle, and the billing dove. *Dryden.*
 To BILL. *v. a.* [from *bill*, a writing.] To publish by an adver-
 tisement: a cant word.
 His masterpiece was a composition that he billed about under
 the name of a sovereign antidote. *L'Estrange.*
 BILLET. *n. f.* [billet, French.]
 1. A small paper; a note.
 When he found this little billet, in which was only written,
 Remember Caesar, he was exceedingly confounded. *Clarendon.*
 2. A ticket directing soldiers at what house to lodge.
 3. Billet doux, or a soft billet; a love letter.
 'Twas then, Belinda! if report say true,
 Thy eyes first open'd on a billet doux. *Pope's Rape of the L.*
 Bawds and pimps will be carrying about billet doux.
Arbutnot and Pope's Martinus Scriblerus.
 4. A small log of wood for the chimney.
 Let us then calculate, when the bulk of a faggot or billet, is
 dilated and rarified to the degree of fire, how vast a place it
 must take up. *Digby on Bodies.*
 Their billet at the fire was found. *Prior.*
 To BILLET. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
 1. To direct a soldier by a ticket, or note, where he is to lodge.
 Retire thee; go where thou art billeted: *Shakefp. Othello.*
 Away, I say.
 2. To quarter soldiers.
 They remembered him of charging the kingdom, by billeting
 soldiers. *Raleigh's History of the World.*
 The counties throughout the kingdom were so incensed, and
 their affections poisoned, that they refused to suffer the soldiers
 to be billeted upon them. *Clarendon.*
 BILLIARDS. *n. f.* without a singular. [billard, Fr. of which that
 language has no etymology; and therefore they probably de-
 rived from England both the play and the name; which is cor-
 rupted from *balhards*; yards or sticks with which a ball is dri-
 ven along a table. Thus *Spenser*.
Balhards much unfit,
 And shuttlecocks miscem'ng manly wit. *Hubb. Tale.*
 A game at which a ball is forced against another on a table.
 Let it alone; let's to billiards. *Shakefp. Antony and Cleop.*
 Even nose and cheek, withal,
 Smooth as is the billiard ball. *Ben Jonson's Underwoods.*
 Some are forced to bound or fly upwards, almost like ivory
 balls meeting on a billiard table. *Boyle.*
 When the ball obeys the stroke of a billiard stick, it is not
 any action of the ball, but bare passion. *Locke.*
 BILLOW. *n. f.* [bilge, Germ. *bolg*, Dan. probably of the same
 original with *bilge*, Sax. a bladder.] A wave swollen, and
 hollow.
 From whence the river Dee, as silver cleen,
 His tumbling billows roll with gentle rore. *Fairy Queen*, b. i.
 Billows sink by degrees, even when the wind is down that
 first stirr'd them. *Wotton.*
 Chafing Nereus with his trident throws
 The billows from the bottom. *Sir J. Denham.*
 But when loud billows lash the founding shore,
 The hoarse rough verse should like the torrent roar. *Pope.*